

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

26 FEBRUARY 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cyprus

a. The calm continued yesterday, but the island is still in the eye of the storm.

b. The Turks, both on Cyprus and the mainland, have reacted violently to Sunday's announcement that Makarios' government is negotiating with the USSR for the establishment of a civil air route.

c. Makarios' move in this case may involve nothing too serious. The USSR has been interested in landing rights in Nicosia for over two years. Before the crisis broke out negotiations had been scheduled for early this year.

d. Nevertheless, the Turks, in the current charged atmosphere, do not see it this way. Kuchuk claims this action is illegal and taken without Turkish Cypriot consent.

e. He sees it as a device to bring in Soviet arms and personnel. Cyprus, he says, is "being turned into another Cuba."

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(Cont'd)

g. There has, to say the least, been no diminution in Turkish readiness measures. Ankara may at minimum be ready for another show of force soon, similar to the one on 14-15 February.

h. We are still inclined to take Turkish leaders at their word that they would consult with the US prior to any attack. The "consultation" might, however, come very late in the game.

i. The Turks are also outraged by Makarios' plan to increase the police force from 2,000 to 5,000 men and his order that the police seize all "unlawful arms."

j. This comes on top of his refusal to admit Turkish Red Crescent supplies due to arrive in Famagusta--for refugees--today, on grounds that the supplies are being sent on naval, rather than merchant vessels.

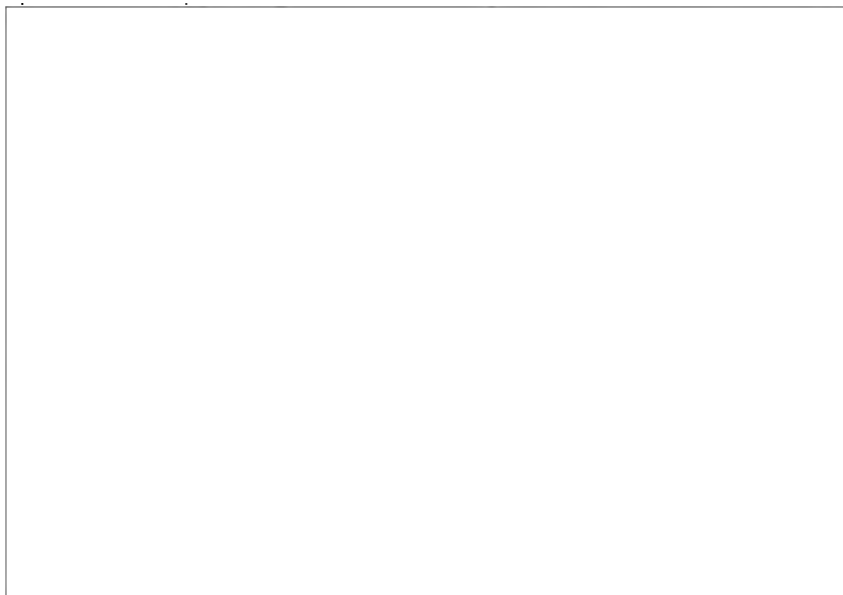
k. Nothing fruitful has yet come out of the deliberations at the UN.

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2. South Vietnam

a. Coup plotting is getting under way again.

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e. Khanh has recently transferred some potentially disloyal officers and units from the Saigon area, but these actions seem only to have generated more discontent.

3. Panama

a. [redacted]

[redacted] the Communist Party leadership does not favor a coup attempt at present.

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(Cont'd)

b. The leadership has over-ruled some sectors of the party which have been attempting to promote such action, with little success, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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c. Rather, the party leaders would prefer to bide their time through the period of a transition government headed by someone like Miguel Moreno [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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4. Bolivia

a. The unsuccessful attempt yesterday to assassinate Air Force General Barrientos could well set in motion a new wave of popular unrest.

b. His assailants are not yet known, but Bolivian opinion is leaping to the conclusion that Paz ordered the job done to get Barrientos out of the way because he opposed Paz' re-election.

(Cont'd)

c. Both Lechin's following and the new anti-Paz faction in Paz' own party--which Barrientos helped organize--now have a new and burning issue to exploit.

d. Barrientos' support comes mainly from the peasants in the Cochabamba Valley. They are unorganized but many of them have rifles.

5. Ghana

a. Nkrumah's cancellation of most 1964 export-import licenses will disrupt commercial activity and aggravate shortages of certain consumer items.

b. There is already much dissatisfaction over depleted stocks and rising prices.



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6. Lebanon

a. President Chehab is apparently going to bow to the inevitable and run again.

b. He told our ambassador it has finally become clear to him that if he leaves the government to highly partisan politicians, Lebanon will come apart again.

c. He is probably right. Chehab appears to be the only man capable of keeping the lid on Moslem-Christian antagonisms.

d. Presidential elections occur every six years in Lebanon and under the constitution the President cannot succeed himself. Chehab will have to get parliamentary approval to stay on.

NOTES

- A. Malaysia The Tunku appears to have been talked out of going to the UN Security Council immediately. Barring more Indonesian cease-fire violations, he will probably not do so until another effort is made to bring the parties together at Bangkok. The press reports this morning that Sukarno and Macapagal are ready for another tripartite foreign minister's session this week, but there is no sign that Sukarno is willing to give an inch.

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- D. South Vietnam Vietnamese security officials in Saigon report that the Viet Cong are plotting the assassinations of prominent Americans in Saigon, in particular Ambassador Lodge.
- E. Brazil - Communist China Goulart's Communist press secretary says that the forthcoming opening of a Chinese Communist trade office in Rio is a prelude to establishment of diplomatic relations.